Government are governed by the standard requirements of financing annual plans as approved by Planning Commission.

Adverse effect of Economic Policies on Small Scale Industries

1286. SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the economic policy of the Government has considerably raised the rupee value in international area :

(b) if so, what is the percent thereof when compared to the past;

(c) whether Government are aware of the fact that the small scale industry stands crushed due to the new Economic Policy of the Government; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to save the sinking small scale industrial units and its labour ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) : (a) and (b) The exchange rate of the Rupee *vis-a-vis* selected major world currencies before the new economic policy and now are given below.

(Rupees per unit of foreign currency)

Currency	June 28, 1991	November 25, 1992		%Depreciation (—)	
		Official Rate	Market Rate*	Official Rate	Market Rate*
US dollar	21.0888	25.8900	30.0571	—18.5	—29.8
Pound Sterling	34.3600	39.4952	45.8190	—13.0	—25.0
Deutsche mark	11.7160	16.2401	18.8501	—27.9	—37.8
Japanese yen	0.1527	0.2091	0.2430	—27.0	—37.2
French franc	3.4543	4.7838	5.5538	—27.8	—37.8

*FEDAI Indicative rate.

(c) and (d) The New Industrial Policy does not take away any of the concessions/facilities enjoyed by the small scale industrial units like the reservations of products for exclusive manufacture in the SSI sector, its priority for bank finance etc. The Government has already announced the small scale Industrial Policy in August, 1991 the primary objective of which has been to impart more vitality and growth-impetus to the sector to enable it to contribute fully to the economy particularly in terms of growth of output, employment and exports.

Bank loan to SSI Units

1287. SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 137 given in the Rajya Sabha on 24th November, 1992 and state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to provide bank loans to SSI units, particularly tiny and village industries at lower or concessional rates of interest;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what further steps are proposed to be taken to ease the flow of bank finance to SSI sector ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, the Reserve Bank of India have reported that the SSI Sector already currently enjoys